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PDC's records best in nation

Washington's Public Disclosure Commission again tops the nation in a survey of disclosure requirements and public access to information. This is the third straight year the state has led the nation in public disclosure information. While the national ranking is nice, the wealth of information serves no purpose unless state residents view it and use it in their decisionmaking process.



Now is a great time to go to the Public Disclosure Commission Web site and look up the contributors to the port commission candidates or see who is financing the candidates for the Olympia City Council. The Web site is www.pdc.wa.gov.

In the latest ranking by the Campaign Disclosure Project, Washington received a top grade in all four subcategories assessed in the national survey: A- in campaign disclosure law; A+ in disclosure content accessibility; A+ in electronic filing program; and B- in online contextual and technical

usability. That lowest grade is instructive. The PDC Web site could be more user friendly. That's something for the staff to work on.

Vicki Rippie, PDC executive director, said Washington's strong showing in this and other public access studies shows that "even small agencies can conduct the people's business in a professional, efficient and cost-effective manner." Good job.

> October 30, 2005 Editorial The Olympian

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